the public sector have now been opened for private sector. Expansion of the public sector will hereafter be confined only to essential infrastructural sectors, social services and poverty alleviation programmes. The entire process of restructuring the economy will have to be in phases. Any radical measures such as selling out or dismantling of the public sector to bring down its share in the economy are neither feasible nor desirable.

Litigation cases by companies assessed for income tax

2792. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that big companies including state sector companies and banks resort to long drawn litigation when assessed for payment of crores of rupees to revenue department;

(b) if so, what is the total amount involved in legal dispute when assessed above Rs. 1 crore;

(c) what is the number of companies involved;

(d) what are the names of the companies who have gone in for litigation before CIT, High Courts and Supreme Court where payments as IT run beyond Rs. 10 crores; and

(e) what are the names of the companies which were found to be right in dispute and IT dues from them were cancelled by CIT (A), High Courts and Supreme Court during the year 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir. A large number of companies have resorted to the appellate procedure prescribed in the Income-tax Act, 1961, in respect of disputed demands raised in their cases.

(b) and (c) The total amount payable and disputed by companies having outstanding demand above Rs. 1 crore as on 31-12-91 is Rs. 1810.80 crores. The number of such companies is 364.

(d) and (e) The names of companies who have gone in for further litigation and who have demand above Rs. 10 crores outstanding as on 31-12-91 is as per Statement enclosed. (*See* below) In the case of these companies, the IT dues were outstanding on 31-12-91 and the appeals filed by them were at various stages of appellate procedure.

Statement

Names of the Companies who have gone in litigation before CSII (A), High Courts and Supreme Court where payments as IT run beyond Rs. 10 crores.

S. No.	Name
1	2
1.	Andhra Valley P. S. Co. Ltd.
2.	Indian Express Newspapers (Bom.) Ltd.
3.	TELCO.
4.	Tata Power Supply Co.
5.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.
6.	TISCO.
7.	Indian Oil Corporation.
8.	National Organic & Chemical Industry Ltd.
9.	Micro S.P.A.
10.	ICICI Ltd.
11.	State Bank of India
12	Mikon Electronics Ltd.
13.	Castlerock Sea Food.
14.	Reliance Petro Chemical Ltd. Co.
15.	Pieco Electronics & Electricals Ltd.
16.	Brook Bond (I) Ltd.
17.	Pearless General Finance & Inv. Co. Ltd.
18.	ICI India Ltd.
19.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.
20.	Steel Authority of India Ltd.
21.	Modi Rubber Ltd.
22.	Modi Pon Ltd.
23.	Modi Industries Ltd.
24.	Escort Tractors Ltd.
25.	Escorts Ltd.
26.	A.P. State Civil Supplies Corporation.

1	2
27.	Oil and Natural Gas Commission.
28.	Balajee Distrilleries.
29.	Orissa Cement.
30.	J.K. Synthetics.
31.	Dalmia Cement.
32.	Golden Tobacco Co.
33.	Dunlop India Ltd.
34.	Orissa Mining Corporation Ltd.
35.	Mecon (India) Ltd.

Proposal to ban retired bureaucrats and bank officials to join private sector

2793. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to impose a bank on top bank officers and bureaucrats joining private sector after retirement.

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per existing instructions, officers who, before retirement, were holding Group 'A' posts in the Central Government, have to obtain prior permission of the Central Government before taking up commercial employment within two years of their retirement. Chairmen/Managing Directors of State Bank of India and Chairmen and Managing Directors/ Executive Directors of the nationalised banks are also required to obtain prior permission of the Central Government before accepting any commercial employment within two years of their retirement.

Rationalisation of customs laws and procedures

2794. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have brought about a major simplification and rationalisation of customs laws and procdeures to benefit both the importers and incoming passengers including non-resident Indians (NRIs;) and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The powers of assessment and adjudication have been delegated to lower officers to reduce the time taken for clearance of import and export cargo. For the same purpose, the number of stages for processing of documents have been combined and reduced. A system of self-assessment of import documents by reputed importers, Government Departments and Public Sector Undertakings has been introduced. The facility of Green Channel clearance (with only limited examination of goods) by certain categories of importers has also been started.

For incoming passengers, including NRIs, the duty free allowances have been enhanced and value limits for bringing specified consumable durables under transfer of residence and Rule 4(A) of the Baggage Rules have been raised. For the passengers availing of transfer of residence, relaxations have been provided to condone shortall of stay in India. Tourist Baggage Rules have been up-dated to allow temporary import of items like, Video Camera, Compact disc player, laptop computer, etc.